

National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP)

Appears to be a fairly loose structure but rather efficient. Stuart Nixon (background in investigative journalism) is currently Executive Director. He along with John Acuff and Charles Miller (backgrounds unknown) make up the organization's Editorial Review Board which is responsible for policy, including the newsletter, ~~press~~ press and other media relations, as well as special ~~reports~~ reports and ~~programs~~ programs.

This board ~~relies~~ relies heavily on both a loosely ~~structured~~ structured advisory group and a fairly well developed and well placed ~~network~~ network of investigators. The advisory group is made up of experts in ~~many~~ many disciplines including physics, astronomy, anthropology, medicine and psychology. This group also includes some ex-CIA and Defense Intelligence types who advise on investigative techniques and NICAP ~~Government~~ Government relations. There does not seem to be any logical or systematic program by which these advisors are chosen, but rather ~~the~~ the procedure seems to be to simply offer one's services to the organization through either Nixon or the Review Board. Often the advisors ~~simply~~ simply joined NICAP (a rather easy task since all it takes is a specified membership ~~fee~~ fee) found something out about the organization, and then made their qualifications ~~known~~ known to the Review Board.

The ~~xi~~ system of investigators is a good one. Nixon has divided the country into regions and has established "investigators" in each of the regions. Any ~~member~~ member of NICAP is encouraged to ~~request~~ request a form by which one can apply for this position. The requirements for the position ~~include~~ include a minimum age of 25, formal training or experience in some branch of science, or other specialized background applicable to systematic collection of information, the ability to cover an area of at least 50 miles in diameter ~~or~~ or one hour of driving time. As of a few months ago some 35 investigators were located throughout the country, with NICAP in the process of establishing even more. A breakdown of their backgrounds looked like the following: 7 PhDs, 2 MAs or MS, 23 BAs or BS, 1 AA and 2 with college training but no degrees. Occupationally they included 4 physical scientists, 13 engineers, 3 college profs, 13 specialists, including doctor, technician, computer programmer and businessman. Five of the 35 are pilots. Also ~~utilized~~ utilized as "legmen" for the investigators are investigator ~~assistants~~ assistants. All investigators carry ~~credentials~~ credentials ~~identifying~~ identifying them as investigators for NICAP.

Approved for Release

2/20/78

13

NICAP currently operates on a \$40,000 yr. budget and has 3,500 dues paying members. Both the membership and the budget may be expected to increase ~~substantially~~ substantially due to the recent UFO flap.

A computer project codenamed "Project Access" is currently in the mill. An effort is being made to develop some sort of pattern analysis out of the 15,000 or more raw reports reportedly in NICAP's files. This apparently will take the following form:

1. event- including time, place, terrain, weather, speed, color, size shape and other information
2. principals- including data on all witnesses and others involved in reports such as bio data, medical info and psychological aspects
3. investigation- including evaluation of reports and special notes from the regional investigator on witness discrepancy in testimony etc...

The following is apparently the organizational structure and relationships within NICAP:

